Noah's Ark and Mt. Ararat

Question: *While sorting through books and other publications recently I came across an August Maranatha Prophetic Alert that I remember saving because I wanted to follow up an article submitted by you. The title is Amazing Discoveries on Mount Ararat, Turkey. It looks as if Don Stanton has added to the bottom of the article and indicated "More details of these mind-blowing discoveries will be available after the publication of a book by the researchers". Do you know if this book was ever published and of course, next question, do you remember the name or who the researchers were for me to track it down? This is probably a big ask but a nudge in the right direction would be marvellous. Back when I saved the booklet I didn't have the know how, much less access to a computer so that is why I set it aside to maybe follow up at a later date.*

It seems more of a long shot to contact Don Stanton as these disoveries were reported by you and as far as I know, this hasn't been followed up in later Maranatha Alerts.

Setterfield: The story that appeared in Maranatha Prophetic Alert is now a deep embarrassment. I had been in contact with Professor William Shea of the Biblical Research Institute, in Silver Spring, Maryland, who had written what appeared to be a very definitive article about some writing found on Mount Ararat. His analysis was compelling, and I gave a presentation with his permission about it in Australia. If what he said was true, there was very little doubt that the Ark had landed in the vicinity of Ararat, or that its occupants had migrated to some place near there.

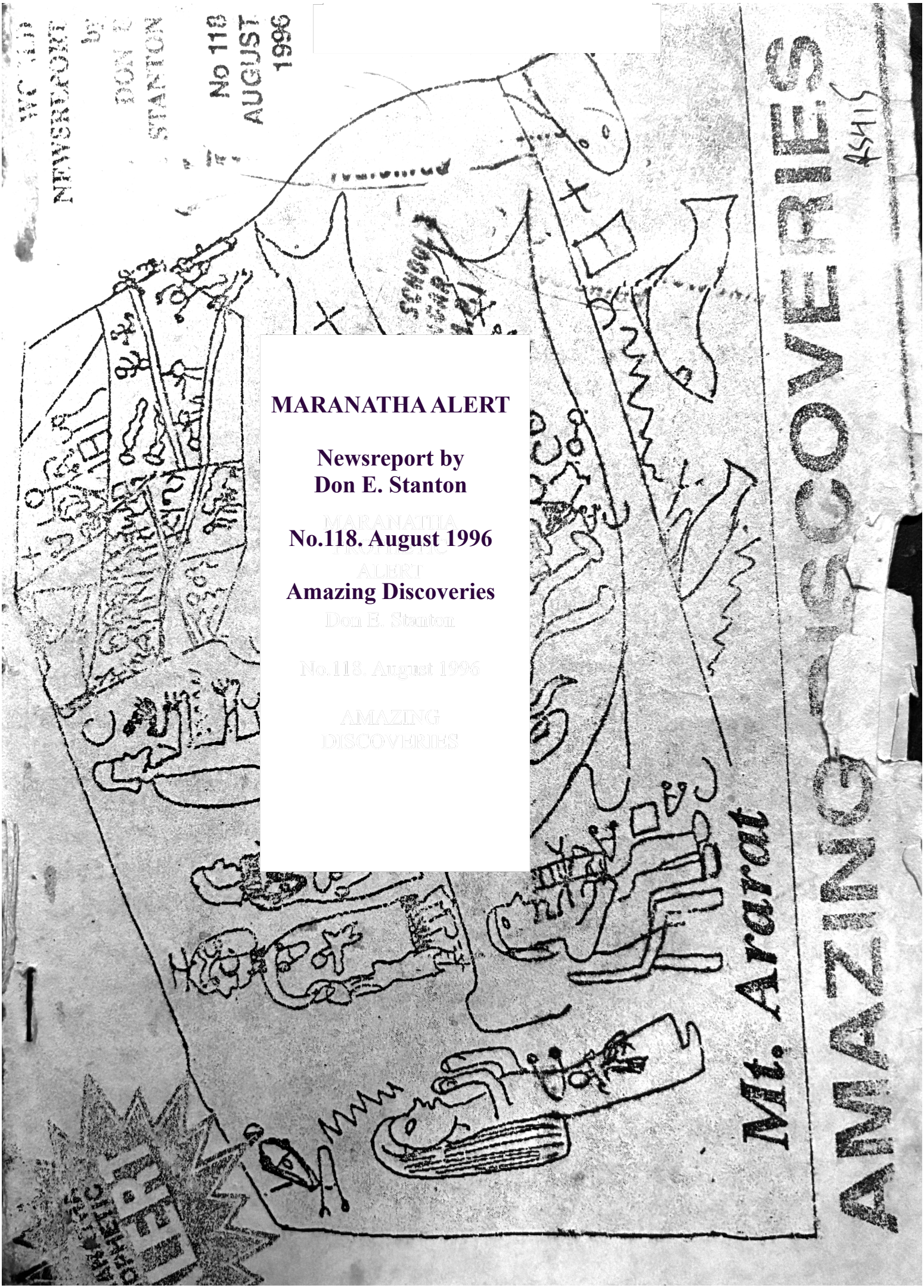
It was only after I had made the presentation and given the information to Don Stanton for his Alert, that the good Professor was called out on the whole exercise. To understand why, Professor Shea was beginning to suffer from some old age mental problems. He was looking at otherwise normal photographs and "seeing" ancient writing in them from the random shadows and lines that existed on them. His staff had to call him out on the matter, but you can understand that, since he was one of the key men in his institute, they were reluctant to make too much of a fuss.

So the conclusion is, please ignore totally all that was said in any copy of either my presentation message or what is seen in the Prophetic Alert from Don Stanton.

I have maintained contact with those involved in Ark research. However, over the past 15 years, Mount Ararat has undergone a period in which the melt-back of ice and snow on the mountain has been extreme. Parts of the mountain were exposed which had never been seen in the lifetime of some of the oldest residents in the area. The important thing which emerges from this information is that Noah's Ark is nowhere to be found on that mountain. The present hype by the Chinese ("Christian") group has been proven to be an elaborate hoax. The key person in this deception has been a Kurdish "guide" named "Parachute" (because he will let you down!). The residents of the area have testified as to what he has done in order to get money from the various groups involved. What saddens me is that so many people have accepted this false testimony and are using it to back up the Bible. Some of the fraud is exposed in the website, "The Discovery of Noah's Ark by Parașut and NAMI: A Fraud?"

That having been said, I must go on to emphasize that my current understanding is that the Ark will not be on Ararat. While the very base of the mountain may be ancient, the vast majority of the mountain is extremely young. It is effectively a volcano of recent age. On one of the peaks, the smell of sulfur exists which indicates activity is still occurring deep underneath. Because of this youthfulness, it is extremely doubtful if the Ark could have ever have landed there.

It may be objected that the Bible seems to state that it was Ararat. However, that is a translation problem. The word "Ararat" literally means "sacred ground." It comes out in the Latin word "*ara*," which means "altar." This points to the sacrifice that Noah made when the Flood was over. So the "holy ground" could have been on any high mountain after the Flood. There is another possibility that we have considered which is discussed in our Genesis 1-11 Bible study. It is in the section on Babel.



MARANATHA ALERT

Newsreport by
Don E. Stanton

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Amazing Discoveries

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AMAZING DISCOVERIES on MOUNT ARARAT, TURKEY

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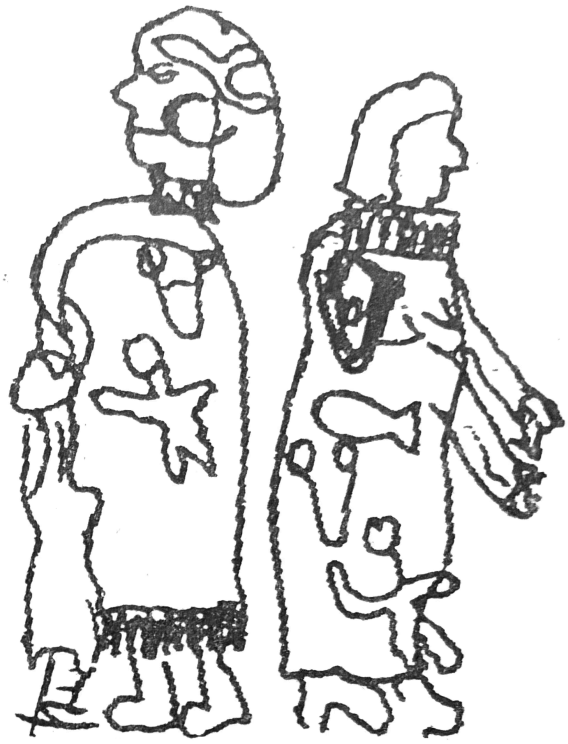

THROUGHOUT the months of April and May 1996, some very significant news was brewing. The story began in 1988 when Larry Crews was visiting Mt Ararat in Eastern Turkey with a team looking for Noah's Ark. Larry visited the ruins at Korhan on the north-western slopes of Ararat. Korhan is well-known among Ark scholars for its pre-Sumerian pictograms~, but there have only been two items that have been translated, both of which related to Noah's Flood and the rainbow covenant.

The first of these was translated on March 1st 1946 by Col. Alexander Koor, a white Russian military officer who was also an archaeologist. His translation has never been disputed. It read:

> *"When the heavens were filled with waters and the waters covered the earth, God the Word sowed the seeds of the word into the waters, and His children came to rest on the top of the mountain."*

This translation is remarkable in that the Deity is called **"God the Word."** The Bible only uses this terminology about Messiah in the New Testament. Prior to this translation, "God the Word" was deemed to be an entirely Christian expression.

The translation of a second inscription appeared in National Geographic Research and Exploration Vol 10 No.4, for Decem-

ber 1994 p.484. The translation was done by Edward E.Crawford of Project Von Bora, Washington USA. His translation reads:

"God's sacrificial Covenant of the bright bow (or rainbow): Let male and female go forth, procreate and replenish the earth."

These words are almost exactly what we have in the opening verses of Genesis 9.

Well, because of Col. Koor's translation, Larry Crews decided to photograph all the inscriptions around Korhan in 1988. It wasn't until April and May this year 1996 that he heard of the skill of Dr. William Shea as a Linguist. Dr Shea understood many ancient mid-Eastern languages, and was adept at translating inscriptions. He works at the Biblical Research Institute in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA. When Larry Crews handed over the photographs, Dr Shea found that he could translate them.

The form of script that most closely parallels these rock-cut inscriptions is Proto-Sinaitic (before Moses). The best examples of this script was that used by the turquoise miners in the Sinai peninsula in the 15th century BC while under Egyptian control. That script had close links with **early written Hebrew,** before the square Assyrian characters were introduced. This discovery takes that form of script back considerably earlier, even though the Korhan inscriptions can only be described as Pre-Proto-Sinaitic. Nevertheless, it is a Semitic script, and as such it produces a clear and understandable text.

As translation proceeded, the importance of the find became very apparent. We summarize the results as follows:

At Korhan on the north-western slopes of Mt Ararat, over a 10 square kilometer area, lie **the tombs of some of the most ancient Biblical Patriarchs. The graves of Shem, Ham and Japheth and their father Noah, have been found.**

The inscriptions distinguish between a mere memorial and a grave: these are definite graves. Noah's repository contains

much information as does that of **his wife Zaillah.** We did not know Noah's wife's name before. Zaillah turned out to be a daughter of the oldest person who ever lived, **Methuselah.**

One of the most fascinating aspects of this discovery of Noah and Zaillah's tomb, is the rock-cut picture stories relating what happened at the time of the Flood. Unlike mere Flood traditions, of which over 200 exist, these rock carvings (see front cover) are actual eye-witness reports as to what happened.

Noah and Zaillah and their 3 sons and their wives are shown within the Ark. As the Flood waters come, there is depicted many people trying to get unto the Ark for safety - but it is too late.

As the Flood-waters mount up over the land, large sea creatures are portrayed swallowing humans alive. **Tubal-Cain,** the person who introduced metalworking into the pre-Flood society (Gen 4:22), is shown being swallowed in this manner.

The inventor of music, **Jubal** (Gen 4:21), is shown clean shaven, with a band around his head, and seated with his harp, about to be engulfed by the waters. A similar fate is depicted for the first bigamist in history, **Lamach** (Gen 4:19), with his wives and daughter Naamah whose hair came to her waist.

These pictures have the names of each individual inscribed upon them. The details of these pictograms on Noah's tomb absolutely confirm the Biblical account.

But remarkable and all as that is, there remains one even more stunning occurrence. Ancient tradition researched in 'Origin of Pagan Idolatry' by Faber in 1816, has insisted that **Noah took on board the mummified remains of many pre-Flood Patriarchs. These mummies were then re-buried by Noah in the New World after the Flood.**

In fact, the pictogram representation of the Ark and animals shows mummies on board the Ark in a chamber just below Noah's family, but above the animals. Incredibly, this is verified

The graves of **Methuselah, Jared, Kenan (Cainan),** have be
found where they have been re-buried after the Flood. There a
memorials, not graves, to Enosh the grandson of Adam, and
wife Hanokah. The grave of Hanokah's father, Seth has be
found. In each case a genealogy is given right back to Adam, a
that genealogy is exactly the one which we have in Genesis
without exception.

Finally, the **rock-tomb of ADAM and EVE,** where they we
re-buried by Noah, has been located by these inscriptions. Th
picture-stories on this tomb, of utmost importance to humanit
outline among other things, the conception, birth and disappoi
ing life of Cain, the first person to be born on Earth.

It tells the story of Cain and Abel. There is a bas-relief of bo
Adam and Eve. Adam, unlike many men in the pictograms, w
clean-shaven, and had close-cropped hair, while Eve wore h
hair somewhat above her shoulders: it may have been curly.

Due to the current political and military unrest in Turkey, there
is little likelihood of a scientific expedition this year to verify that
the mummified remains of these originators of the human race are
intact.

Indeed, if those mummies have resisted decomposition after all
these years, and Adam turns out to have no naval, and a rib
missing, then the theory of evolution faces some huge problems.

There is much evidence around Mt Ararat to support our belief
in God the Word, and the Word of God, the Bible.

- Barry Setterfield \ Australia \ 19 June 96

More details of these mind-blowing discoveries will be
fter the publi

PICTOGRAMS ON THE BURIAL PLACE OF ADAM AND EVE